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TEL +1•202•872•0030 FAX +1•202•872•1331 WEB PAGE: www.utc.org

Jeffrey L. Sheldon VP & General Counsel 202-872-0031, ext. 216 jsheldon@utc.org

December 18, 1998

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas Secretary Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W. Room 222 Washington, D.C. 20554

Ex Parte

PEDERAL COMMANICATIONS COMMISSIO OPPICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: Multiple Address Systems WT Docket No. 97-81

Dear Ms. Salas:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, this is to notify you that the following persons, representing the organizations listed, made an oral presentation to the staff of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau regarding the licensing of multiple address systems (MAS) in the 900 MHz band (WT Docket No. 97-81):

<u>Name</u>	Representing
Jeffrey Sheldon	UTC, The Telecommunications Association
Jerry Obrist	Lincoln Water System and the American Water Works Association
Curtis White (Law Office of Curtis White)	East Bay Municipal Utility District
Wayne Black (Keller & Heckman)	American Petroleum Institute
Thomas Keller (Verner, Liipfert, Bernhard,	Association of American Railroads
McPherson & Hand)	

The parties summarized the arguments advanced in their "Joint Supplemental Comments" filed in this docket on October 30, 1998. A copy of the written materials used during the presentation are appended hereto.

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Two copies of this notice are being submitted for filing in the docket of this proceeding.

If there are any questions concerning this matter, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey L. Sheldon

VP & General Counsel

cc:

D'wana Terry, FCC John Borkowski, FCC Shellie Blakeney, FCC Ron Quirk, FCC

Max Gale, FCC

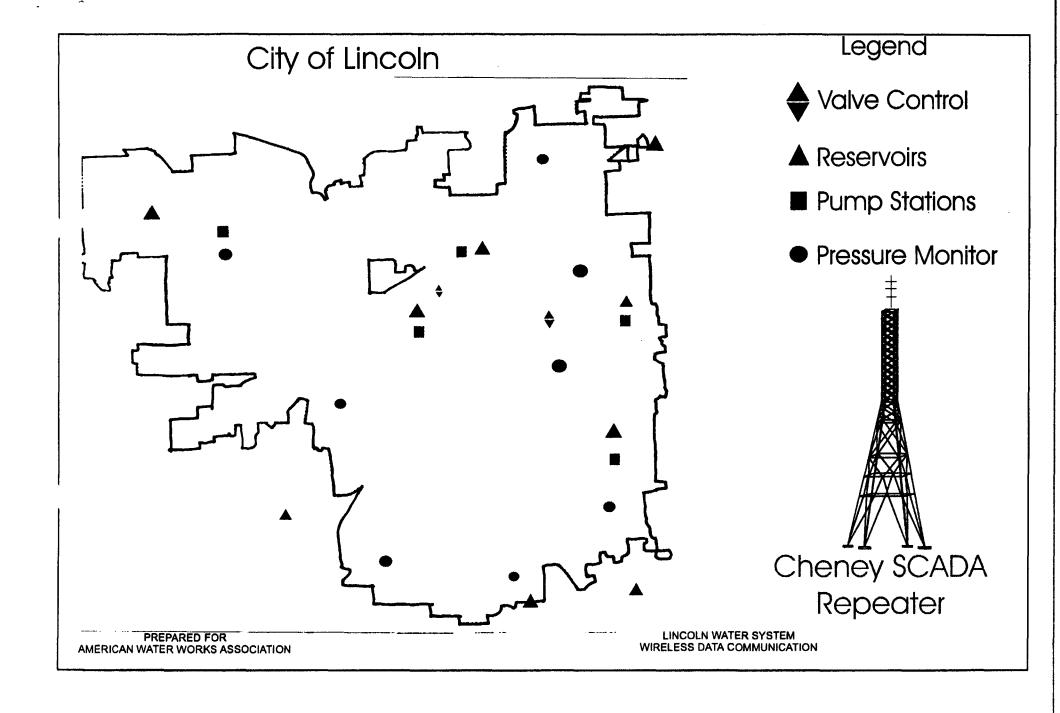
POSITION OF THE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE INDUSTRIES ON

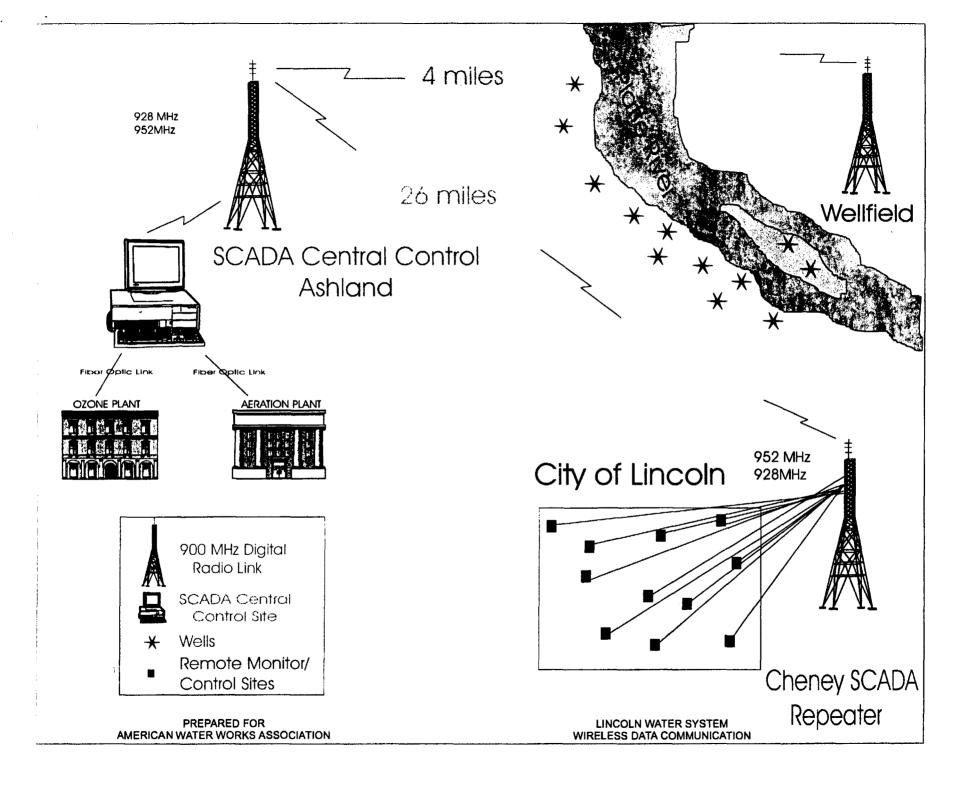
MULTIPLE ADDRESS SYSTEM (MAS) LICENSING WT DOCKET NO. 97-81

- I. Utilities, Railroads and Pipelines Make Extensive Use of 900 MHz MAS
 - A. Typical Uses:
 - Utilities -- supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA); line switching; water system monitoring and flow control; gas system pressure controls
 - Railroads -- real-time switching and signaling; telemetry
 - Pipelines -- SCADA; oil and gas well monitoring; pressure differentials; alarms
 - B. Critical Infrastructure Industries (CII) are the largest group of non-commercial MAS licensees
 - C. As CII operations become more sophisticated, and as protection of the nation's critical infrastructure receives greater attention, there will be an increasing need for MAS spectrum.
- II. MAS Licenses Used By CII Eligibles Are Exempt From Auctions
 - A. MAS systems are "private internal radio services used by State and local governments and non-government entities...that (i) are used to protect the safety of life, health or property; and (ii) are not made commercially available to the public." 47 U.S.C. §309(j)(2).
 - B. "[T]he exemption from competitive bidding authority [in §309(j)(2)] for 'public safety radio services' includes 'private internal radio services' used by utilities, railroads, metropolitan transit systems, pipelines, private ambulances, and volunteer fire departments." Conf. Report, H.R. Rep. No. 105-217 at 572 (1997) (emphasis added)

III. Conclusion

- A. Designate for CII use:
 - 1. Existing 928/952/956 MHz channels (but grandfather existing *systems* licensed to non-CII eligibles).
 - 2. At least 20 new channel pairs at 932/941 MHz.
- B. Define CII eligibility by reference to Rule Part 90 definitions (§90.7):
 - 1. "Power Licensee" -- electric, gas, or water production or delivery
 - 2. "Petroleum Licensee" -- petroleum or gas production or delivery
 - 3. "Railroad Licensee" -- passenger or property railroad carrier





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